

What is claimed is

1. A method for decreasing depression by inhibiting the activity of N-type calcium channel.

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2. The method for decreasing depression as set forth in claim 1, wherein the method is inhibiting the activity of alpha 1B of N-type calcium channel.

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3. The method for decreasing depression as set forth in claim 1, wherein the inhibiting the N-type calcium channel is accomplished by treating a substance working specifically toward N-type calcium channel to inhibit its activity.

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4. The method for decreasing depression as set forth in claim 1, wherein the inhibiting the N-type channel is accomplished by treating an antibody combining specifically with N-type calcium channel.

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5. The method for decreasing depression as set forth in claim 1, wherein the inhibiting the N-type calcium channel is accomplished by

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suppressing the transcription of a gene encoding N-type calcium channel.

- 5 6. The method for decreasing depression as set forth in claim 1, wherein the inhibiting the N-type calcium channel is accomplished by suppressing the translation of a transcribed N-type calcium channel gene.
- 10 7. An anti-depression agent containing a N-type calcium channel inhibitor as an effective ingredient.
- 15 8. The anti-depression agent as set forth in claim 7, wherein the anti-depression agent contains the N-type calcium channel alpha 1B inhibitor as an effective ingredient.
- 20 9. The anti-depression agent as set forth in claim 7, wherein the N-type calcium channel inhibitor is selected from a group consisting of a compound acting specifically upon N-type calcium channel to inhibit its activity, an antibody combining specifically with N-type calcium channel, a substance inhibiting the transcription of a gene encoding N-type calcium
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channel and a substance inhibiting the translation of a transcribed N-type calcium channel gene.

5 10. A screening method for the anti-depression agent by using an alpha 1B gene or a protein thereof.

11. The screening method for the anti-depression agent as set forth in claim 10, wherein the
10 method is comprised of the following steps:

- 1) Obtaining a transformant by transfecting host cells with a vector containing an alpha 1B structural gene and a reporter gene;
- 2) Culturing the above transformant along with a
15 test sample for screening; and
- 3) Measuring the expression of the reporter gene.